

Equine Slaughter in the USA – Yesterday, Today, and the Future??

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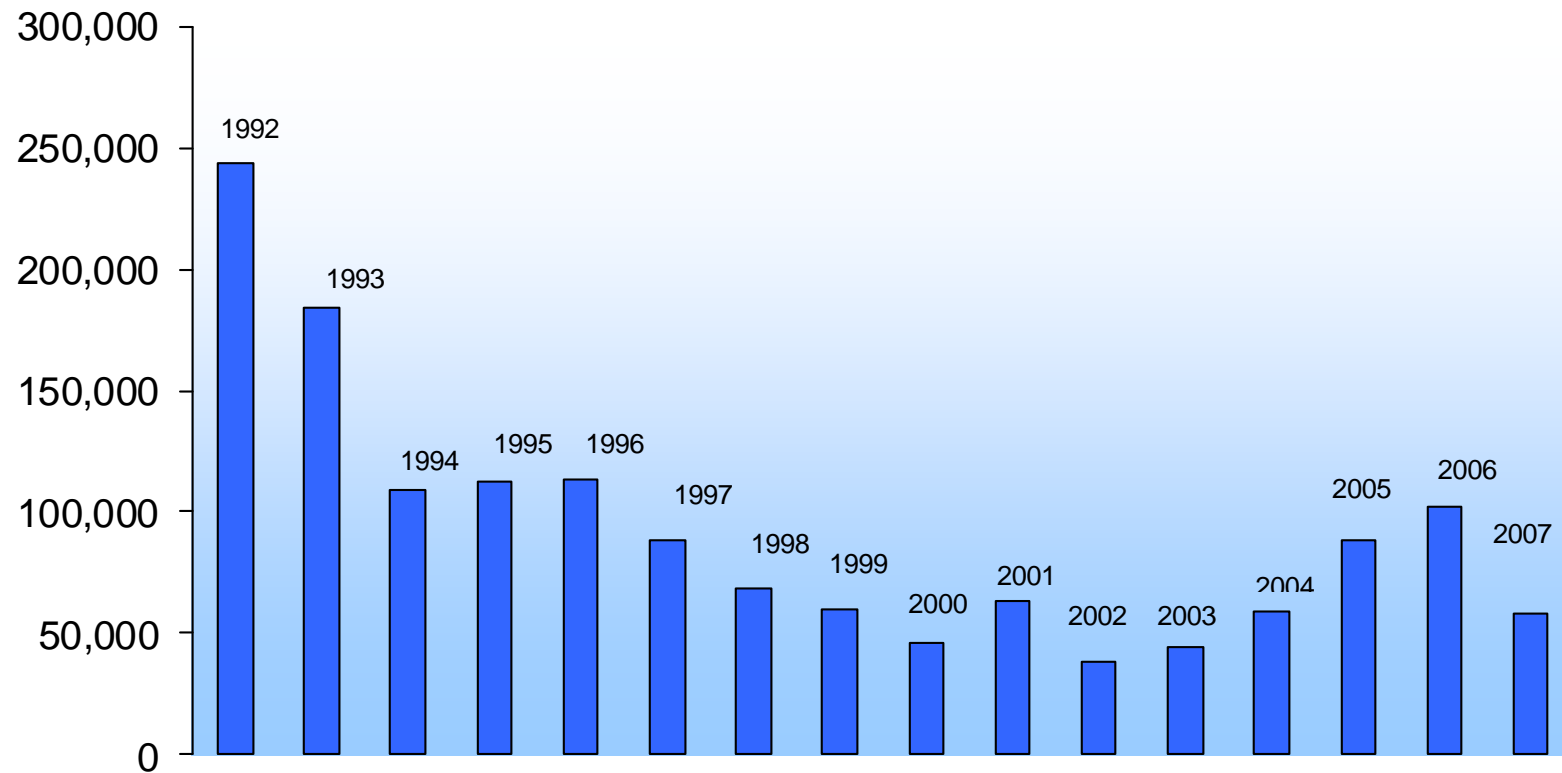
Historically in the U.S., horse meat once came from free-roaming mustangs, who remain icons of the American West, but pose challenges to many ranchers. Today, the slaughter of mustangs for food is illegal, and horses destined for U.S. slaughterhouses would come mainly from auctions, sold by private sellers and breeders.

Prior to 2007, three major equine slaughterhouses operated in the United States:

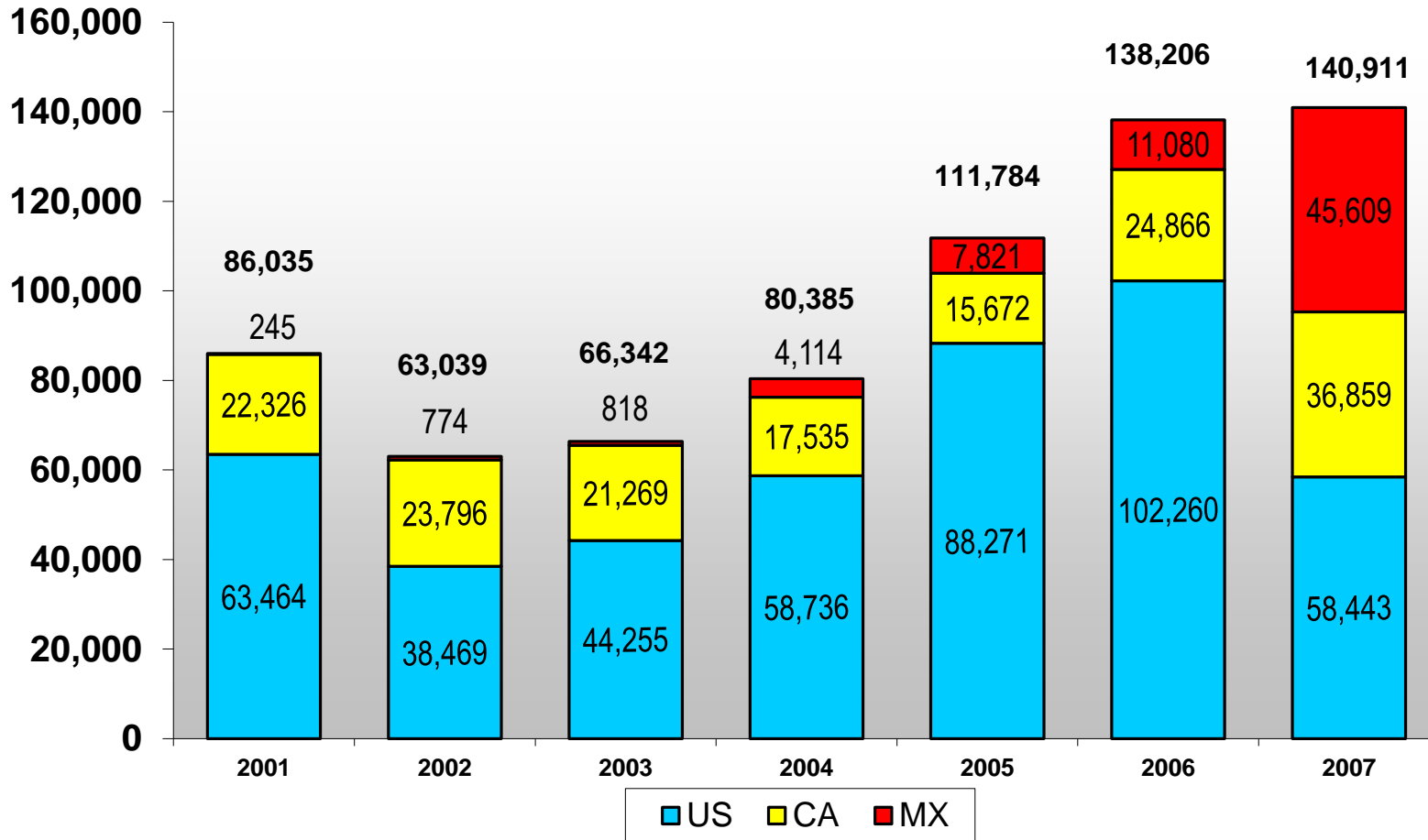
1. Dallas Crown, Inc. in Kaufman, Texas
2. Beltex Corporation in Fort Worth, Texas
3. Cavel International, Inc. in DeKalb, Illinois

All with Belgian ownership

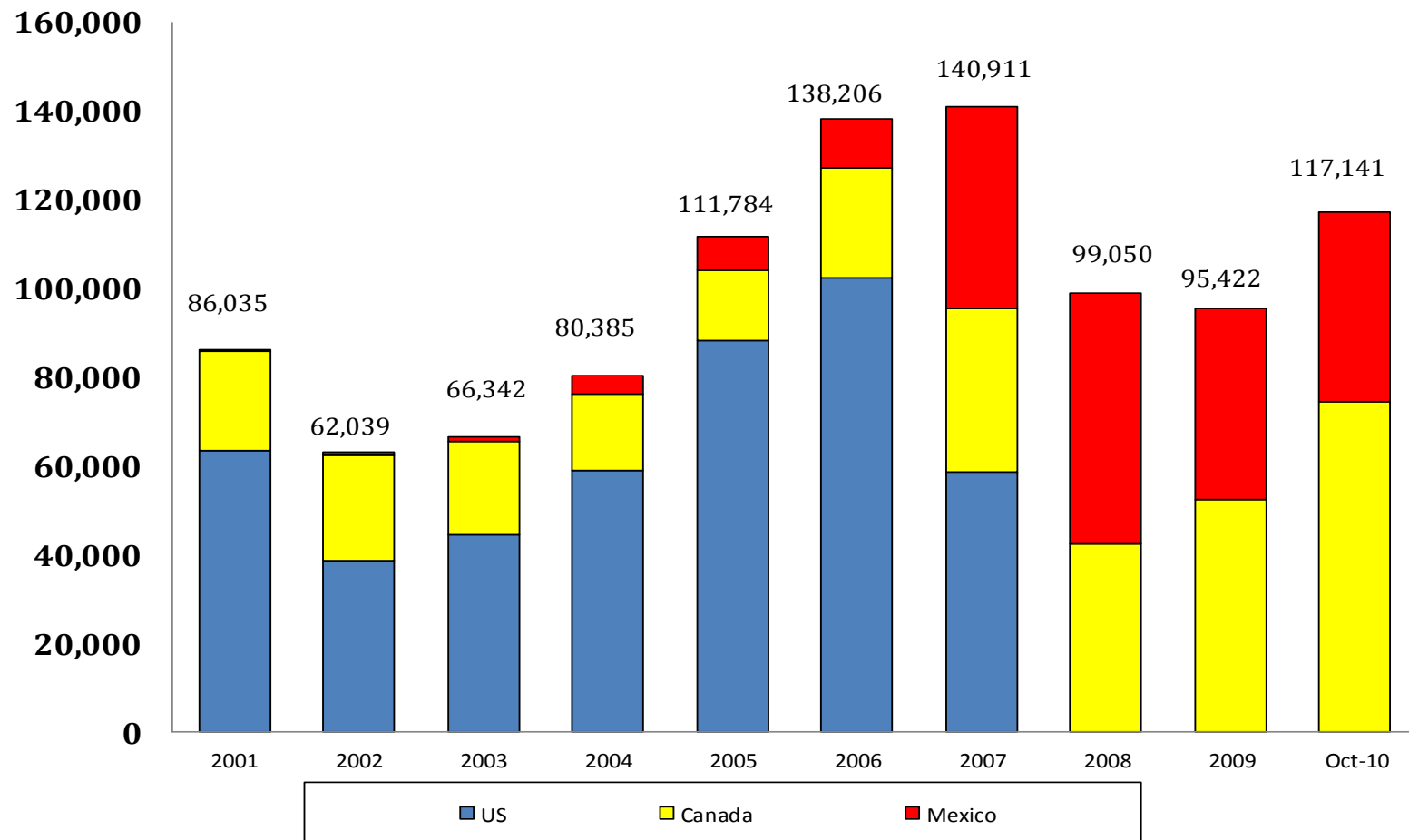
Equines Processed in U.S. Plants, '92 - 07



United States Origin Equines Processed in US, CA, & MX; 2001 - 2007



Equine Processed in US, CA, & MX; 2001- Oct 2010



USDA/FSIS Update

Equine Slaughter

- Beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2006, Congress stopped funding the inspection of horse slaughter plants, effectively prohibiting horse slaughter for human consumption.
- Recently, Congress reversed itself and took steps that allowed for the inspection and slaughter of the animals.

Valley Meats

Roswell, New Mexico

- Federal officials on June 28 allowed a “grant of inspection” to a southeastern New Mexico company to begin slaughtering horses.
- Responsible Transportation of Sigourney, Iowa has been given a “grant of inspection.”
- A business in Missouri is expecting to receive a “grant of inspection” any day.

Injunction

- At the same time, HSUS, Front Range Equine, Marin Humane Society, Horses for Life Foundation, as well as private citizens have filed against USDA asking for an immediate injunction and are suing under the National EPA for failure to conduct the necessary environmental reviews.

According to Reuters

- The Administration has requested Congress to reinstate the ban on horse slaughter.
- Both the House of Representatives and Senate appropriations committees have already voted to halt all funding for horse slaughter in FY 2014.

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